

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

A. R. RUCKER MIDDLE
Lancaster County
Grades: 6-8 Enrollment: 526
Principal: Phillip Mickles
Superintendent: Dr. Gene Moore
Board Chair: Bobby Parker

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		AYP STATUS	NCLB IMPROVEMENT STATUS
			General Performance	Closing the Gap		
2010	Average	Good	TBD	TBD	Not Met	N/A
2009	Average	Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A
2008	Below Average	Below Average	N/A	N/A	Not Met	N/A

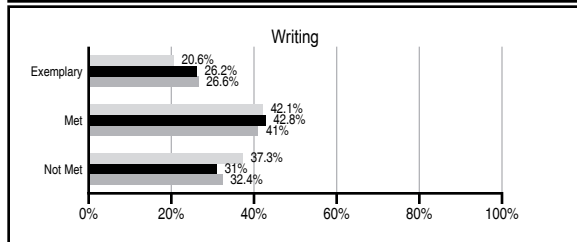
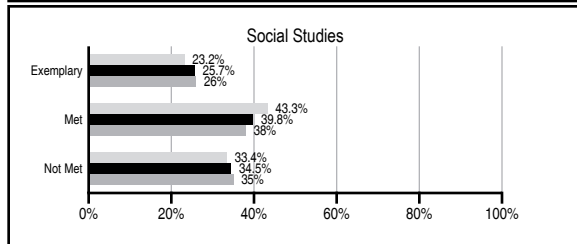
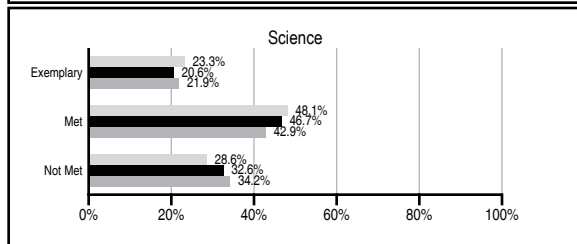
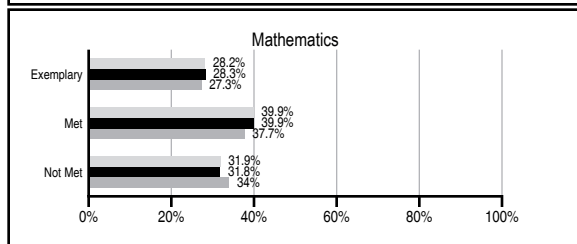
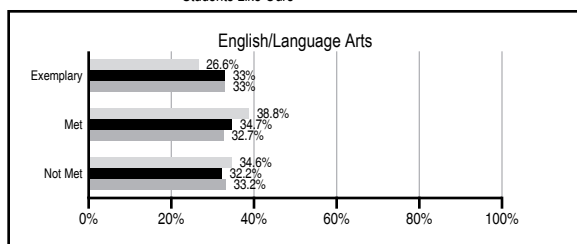
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
0	6	46	2	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/09/2011. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

READING – GRADE 8 (2009)

South Carolina	32	44	23	2
Nation	26	43	28	2

% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced

Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced

MATH – GRADE 8 (2009)

South Carolina	31	39	23	7
Nation	29	39	25	7

% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced

Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced

SCIENCE – GRADE 8 (2005)

South Carolina	31	39	23	7
Nation	29	39	25	7

% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced

Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2010

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	100.0	97.1
English 1	N/A	97.7
Physical Science	N/A	72.8
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	100.0	97.2

SC PERFORMANCE GOAL

2010 Goal:
By 2010, SC's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

2020 Vision:
By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined

NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status

A. R. RUCKER MIDDLE [Lancaster County]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=526)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	17.3%	Down from 22.7%	25.0%	24.2%
Retention rate	0.0%	Down from 0.2%	0.7%	0.7%
Attendance rate	95.3%	Down from 95.6%	95.7%	95.9%
Eligible for gifted and talented	19.1%	Up from 15.9%	17.9%	16.4%
With disabilities other than speech	13.7%	Up from 13.6%	12.7%	12.0%
Older than usual for grade	1.7%	Up from 1.2%	2.6%	2.2%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	4.2%	Up from 0.8%	0.6%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=38)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	50.0%	Up from 43.6%	55.8%	58.5%
Continuing contract teachers	60.5%	Down from 66.7%	81.1%	80.0%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	6.7%	Up from 6.1%	3.5%	4.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	80.0%	Down from 81.1%	84.6%	84.6%
Teacher attendance rate	95.0%	Down from 95.1%	95.3%	95.4%
Average teacher salary*	\$45,938	Down 3.3%	\$45,911	\$46,561
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	2.2%	Up from 0.0%	2.0%	1.3%
Professional development days/teacher	6.7 days	Down from 11.1 days	10.7 days	10.2 days
School				
Principal's years at school	3.0	Up from 2.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.3 to 1	Up from 19.1 to 1	21.3 to 1	21.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.2%	Up from 87.7%	90.2%	90.4%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	59.9%	Up from 54.0%	97.7%	98.1%
Character development program	Excellent	Up from At-Risk	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,284	Down 2.4%	\$7,733	\$7,802
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	65.5%	Up from 64.6%	64.7%	63.8%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	61.1%	Up from 60.0%	60.4%	60.0%
% of AYP objectives met	90.5%	No Change	92.6%	92.3%

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	35	136	122
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	80.0%	89.0%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	80.1%	87.3%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	91.4%	79.4%	80.0%

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Throughout the 2009-10 school year, Aaron Riley Rucker Middle School focused on continued school improvement. We had many highlights during this school term. We received our accreditation as an International Baccalaureate-Middle Years Programme ("IB program") which continues to drive our instruction. More importantly, through the IB program, students discover how their unique talents, when developed, become pipelines for possible future careers. Teachers, administrators, counselors, and nurses all worked together to create an environment that fosters success. We focused on making instructional decisions that align with the school's beliefs, vision, and mission.

Middle School students perhaps face more social and developmental challenges than any other grade level. During these three years, socialization is a top priority for many students. As a school, we have worked to improve and offer good habits that will follow them throughout life. We focused on implementing differentiating instruction for all of our students. The successful addition of our single-gender classes brought about a better school environment. We concentrated on learning activities designed to address multiple learning styles and achievement or developmental levels. Both informal and formal diagnostic procedures provided data about the students' preferences. By increasing efforts to help our students develop more personal and social responsibility, we believe our students also achieve more academically.

In addition, we continue to improve on three critical areas: 1) Technology—we improved middle school education for our students with diverse learning abilities by putting a SmartBoard in every classroom; 2) Literacy— we are continuing to promote literacy and writing through our Rams Uniting Monthly Building Literacy Experiences (R.U.M.B.L.E.); and 3) Leadership for School Improvement – our administration team works with all stakeholders to implement programs that improve student achievement.

Although there is still room for improvement and much work remains to be done, the positive trends in achievement for our students give us greater confidence and serve as a motivating factor to stay the course in our commitment to continuous improvement.

Phillip Mickles, Principal
Paula Stegall, School Improvement Council Chair

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